The feasibility study has been conducted by the KSTDC and the project is to be commissioned by them.

Provision of trollies at Delhi Railway Stations

†1959. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would provide trollies at three major railway stations — New Delhi,Old Delhi and Nizamuddin in Delhi so that passengers could carry their luggage on the said trollies and levy nominal charges on maintenance of such trollies; and

(b) if so, the scheme of Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) These trolleys are not likely to be useful at the above three stations on account of design of the stations.

Vacancies in Railways

1960. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are over 70,000 vacancies in the Indian Railways at present, which is adversely affecting efficiency in the Railways;

(b) the number of vacancies as on 30th November, 2003, zone-wise and cadre-wise; and

(c) The steps taken/proposed to fill these vacancies so as to bring the situation to the level of normalcy to the extent possible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Member is probably referring to the vacancies in Safety, Security and Operational Categories. Occurrence of vacancies due to retirement/superannuation, resignation etc. being a continuous process, there are bound to be a few vacancies

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in a large organization like the Railways spread over the entire country, at any point of time. Since the sanctioned strength of staff includes provision for leave reserve, rest givers and for training, these take care of gaps, if any, between occurrence and filling up of vacancies. The steps to fill up the vacancies include promptly placing indents on Railway Recruitment Boards for direct recruitment and conducting selections/ suitability/trade tests for promotion timely. The Safety, Security and Operational categories have been exempted from the purview of rightsizing and hence recruitment ordered to the full extent. Details of vacancies in safety categories zone-wise and cadre-wise as on 30.11.2003 will be collected and placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Siding track of KRIBHCO

1961. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of industrial growth of the area around Hajira Port, railways accept the need of connecting Hajira Port to its hinterland;

(b) whether Railways will consider to extend the siding track of KRIBHCO up to Hajira; and

(c) if so, by when this work will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The project is a part of the port connectivity initiative under National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY). The project can be taken up once the financial feasibility is established by the technical and financial study underway.

Vigyan Rail

1962. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways postponed the train 'Vigyan Rail' which was intended to spread awareness about progress, the country has achieved in Science and Technology;

(b) if so, what are the special features of the train;